

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I cannot believe it is already the end of the month and time for another newsletter! The children have been working as hard as ever and continue to amaze us every day with the progress they are making in their learning.

The beginning of the month was very busy with Remembrance Day, Children in Need and Anti-bullying Week. The children spent time reflecting on how we can help others and we are proud of the money we raised as a school to support these causes. Attending the Remembrance service at St Mary's church with our school House Captains was a highlight of the month for me as being part of our local Kingswinford community is really important for our school. Looking forward to next year we will be attending again and hoping to get more of our children involved.

Other memorable moments from November include the Diwali dance workshop which was enjoyed by all and the launch of our new after school clubs and of course, the beginning of Forest School.

Forest School has been an amazing addition to our curriculum offer and the children are really enjoying it. We hope to be able to roll it out for the rest of the school next year so all children are part of this wonderful experience.

Mrs Wainwright

## ATTENDANCE



Thank you for the huge efforts you are making to get children into school. **Our whole school attendance figure is still sitting below** the national expectation and we hope to see this continuing to improve.

**93.75%- St Mary's  
95%- National**

We are also becoming increasingly aware of children being late for school. Please can we ask that every effort is made to get children to school on time so that they can have a settled start and do not miss any of their learning.

If you feel you need any support with attendance and lates, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## WORSHIP

We began the half term by thinking about 'sacrifice' in worship and what it meant to put others before yourself. We are fortunate that the PTA have given each class some money to spend on things they would like to have in their classroom to personalise it to their tastes. When asked if they would sacrifice a small amount of this money to give to Children in Need an overwhelming number of our children were prepared to make this sacrifice. We have also been learning about advent and how this is a time of renewed hope for Christians.

## DIARY DATES

- 2.12.24- PTA funded in school Pantomime
- 4.12.24- Years 2&4 BCLM visit
- 12.12.24- Christmas Jumper Day
- 12.12.24- Year 5 parents Forest School AM, Year 3 PM- Further info to follow
- 13.12.24- Christmas Fayre 6pm-8pm
- 17.12.24- EYFS Christmas Event with parents 9:30-11:00
- 18.12.24- KS1 Nativity- 2pm
- 19.12.24- KS2 Carol Service St Mary's 1:30PM

## CONTACTING SCHOOL

**If you would like to request an appointment with the SENDCO (Ms Palmer) or another member of SLT or for general enquiries, please contact the school office:**

**Phone Number:** 01384818295

**Email:** [info@st-mary-ki.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-mary-ki.dudley.sch.uk)

**You can also use Class Dojo Messaging to contact SLT and your child's teacher.**

## SAFEGUARDING

At St Mary's we appreciate that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. If you have any concerns about a child, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details shared opposite. Our Safeguarding and child protection policy can be found on our school website.

# HOUSE CAPTAINS SCHOOL UPDATE



**FIRE by Jenson and Brooke**

In RE children have been enjoying learning about different religions. They love learning about God and learning about the world. Everybody really enjoyed Diwali dancing and learning movements that followed the story of Rama and Sita. Daniel likes to see his headteacher during worship!



**WATER by Annie and Eden**

At our Forest School lessons we have an array of activities from making fires with trusted adults to jobs like bug hunters! Also, everyone has a job and an opportunity to take part and express their inner self.



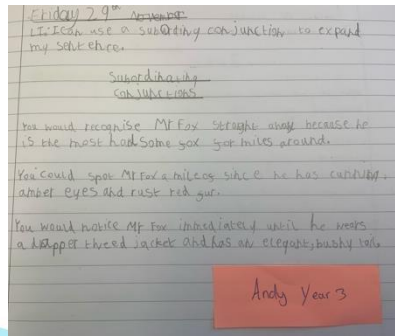
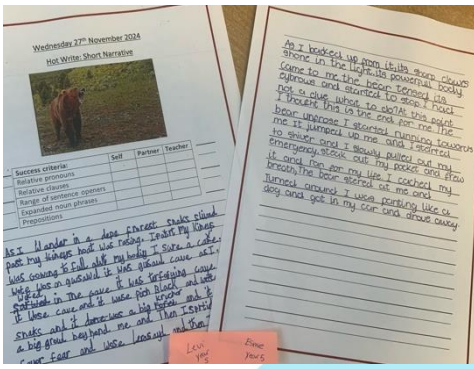
**EARTH by Gracie and Annabel**

Lots of children at St Mary's enjoy playing with their friends. Their favourite things to do with their friends are to play football, play tag and go on the monkey bars. Year 1 like to play 'Duck, Duck, Goose,' with their friends.



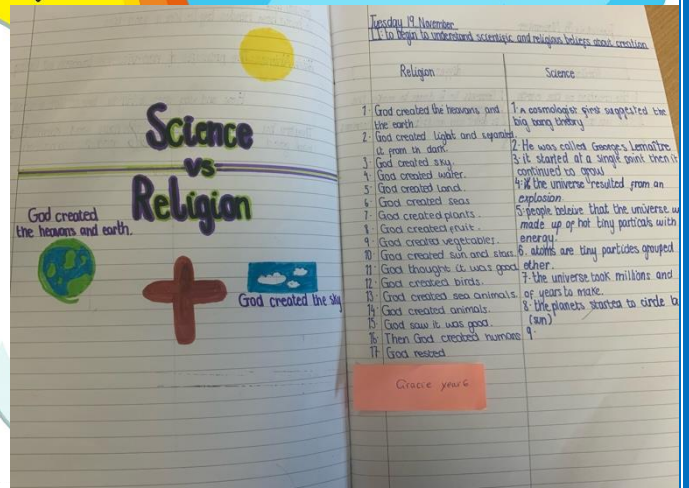
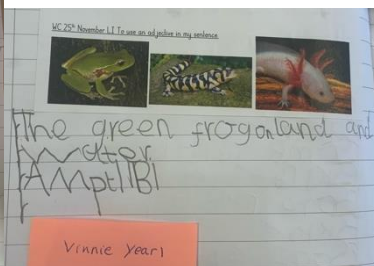
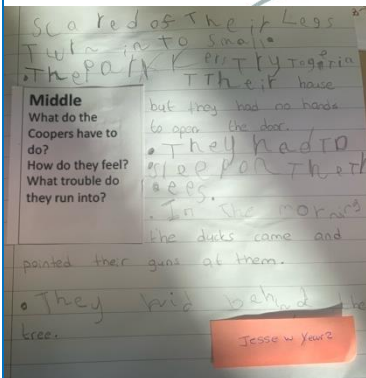
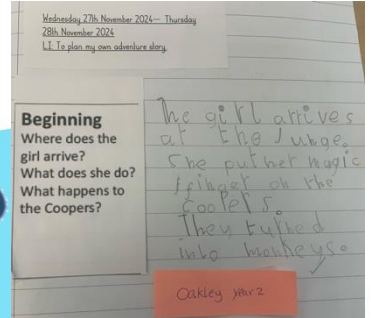
**AIR by Ava and Iris**

We found that children like reading interesting stories and answering questions about them that really get you thinking. Year 4 children like adventurous stories and are enjoying reading Street Child at the moment. Archie added that they really like reading in Year 3!



Handwritten student work on a 'Research and record' sheet. The student has written a report about a mine, including a table with columns for 'Job title and starting age', 'Activities carried out', 'Working conditions', and 'Health risks'.

Job title and starting age	Activities carried out	Working conditions	Health risks
stated age 14	sleeping in mines to keep air flowing	dark and dangerous	fire from gas
worked in coal mine	hooking the cables on a girl	12 hours in pit	boles, many small
they were under the age of 14	hearing and filling the wagons	gas leaks	eried from tight long hours and dark
opened and closed the pool	operating the mine shaft	explosions	breathing problems
		beating if mistakes were made	children's health was also affected by the constant damp draught and cold
		children as young as five worked at jobs that were dangerous	



*Instilling a life-long love for learning in an inclusive, supportive Christian community.*

